Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ADP-00 EB-05 RSR-01 RSC-01 /013 W

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R 231232 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2838

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FOR COMMERCE

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EIND, IR

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY: INDUSTRIAL MINING AND DEVELOP-

MENT BANK (IMDBI)

REF: A. STATE 116780 B. STATE 120379

1. EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES SPEEDY RESPONSE AND FACTUAL COMMENT REFTELS.

2. FOLLOWING IS AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON PRESENT PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICAL FITTINGS IN IRAN. EMBASSY CAUTIONS DEPARTMENT THAT THESE ARE BEST GUESSES BY IMDBI SINCE PRESENT PRODUCERS FITTINGS NOT RPT NOT JOINT VENTURES WITH IMDBI.

SWITCHES AND SOCKETS FOR OUTLETS 15 MILLION UNITS

SWITCHES AND SOCKETS FOR SURFACE MOUNTING 3.6 MILLION UNITS

BULB HOLDERS 6 MILLION UNITS

PLUGS 1.5 MILLION UNITS

DISTRIBUTION BOXES 3.9 MILLION UNITS

TOTAL 30 MILLION UNITS

IMPORT STATISTICS ARE NOT BROKEN DOWN IN OFFICIAL DATA AND ARE PROBABLY NOT COMPLETE. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL DATA 3 MILLION UNITS OF ALL TYPES IMPORTED. IMDBI SOURCES CALCULATE THAT AT LEAST ANOTHER 15 MILLION AND PERHAPS MORE ARE IMPORTED UNDER DIFFERENT TARIFF HEADINGS.

4. CONCERNING PARAGRAPH 3, REFTEL B, IRAN'S POWER SYSTEM IN RESILIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DENTIAL HOMES IS 220 VOLTS, 50 CYCLE, SINGLE PHASE. MOTORS USED IN HOMES VARY WITH GROWING AFFLUENCE ESPECIALLY IN MAJOR CITIES. IRANIAN USAGE AT UPPER END OF INCOME SPECTRUM APPROACHES AMERICAN CONSUMPTION. WIRING STANDARDS USED IN IRAN ARE WOEFULLY UNEVEN ESPECIALLY IN RESIDENTIAL HOUSING.

- 5. MAJOR PURPOSE OF IMDBI PROJECT IS TO DEVELOP IMPROVED STANDARDS OF FITTING AND WIRING FOR PRESENT CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.
- 6. IMDBI ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN ANY PRELIMINARY JUDGMENTS CONCERNING OPTIMUHEBIZE OF PLANT TO SERVICE IRANIAN MARKET. THERE ALSO EXISTS AN EXPORT MARKET IN THE SURROUNDING REGION WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED IF IRANIAN PRODUCTION IS COMPETITIVELY PRICED. IMDBI STRONGLY PREFERS AN AMERICAN PARTNER FOR THIS PROJECT SINCE THEY CONSIDER AMERICAN STANDARDS OF QUALITY AND DURABILITY SUPERIOR TO THE OTHERS IN THIS LINE OF PRODUCTION.

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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